

IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-7. (cancelled)

8. (new) An oil filtering device for an in-line oil filtering configuration comprising:

a filter part having a micro-filtration device for filtering said oil;

a filter housing comprising a lid;

a clamping mechanism for securing said lid to said housing;

an inlet port situated outside said filter part for radial flow-filtering of said oil;

an outlet port in fluid communication with a cylindrical interior space of said filter part; and

a by-pass mechanism formed by an aperture provided in a closing member which sealingly engages an axial end face of the filter part, the aperture connecting the interior space in the filter part to a space exterior to said filter part, said by-pass comprising a valve mechanism movable between a closed position at a lowest operating oil pressure to an open position as a function of increasing operating oil pressure.

9. (new) An oil filtering device according to claim 8 wherein axial end faces of the filtering part are formed by the micro-filtration device.

10. (new) An oil filtering device according to claim 8 wherein the valve mechanism is at least partially incorporated in said aperture of an end face closing member.

11. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 8 wherein the valve mechanism is pressure dependent and comprises an elastically deformable device providing an internal passage which opens up as a function of increasing oil pressure.

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12. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 8 comprising internal, substantially flat filter end face contacting faces for axially closing a passage of oil, and having a diameter substantially equal to that of the filter part, said contacting faces being part of the housing and being clamped to said filter end faces by said clamping mechanism.

13. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 8 wherein a radial thickness of the micro-filtration device is larger than a radial thickness of its interior space within said housing.

14. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 12 wherein a radial thickness of the micro-filtration device is larger than a radial thickness of its interior space within said housing.

15. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 8 comprising an oil passage closing face integral in the housing.

16. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 12 wherein the oil passage closing face is integrated in a housing wall part having a thickness of more than twice the thickness of a majority of the corresponding housing wall part.

17. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 8 comprising a closing face integrated into an insert member accommodating irregularities in shape of the housing at an axial side of the insert member opposing the closing face.

18. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 17 comprising an O-ring associated with the insert member and corresponding to a largest diameter of the insert member.

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19. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 8 comprising closure members sealingly engaging axial end faces of the filter part.

20. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 19 wherein at least one of the closure members includes a cylindrical notch adapted to fit in said cylindrical interior space of said filter part.

21. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 19 wherein the cylindrical notch is connected to the outlet port.

22. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 8 wherein the housing comprises a dimple for positioning the filter part.

23. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 8 comprising at least one closure member sealingly engaging an axial end face of the filter part.

24. (new) An oil filter device according to claim 20 wherein said at least one closure member contacts the housing by way of a spring.

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